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Document Listing

Document	Selected Pages	Page Range	Copies
US005552169	7	1 - 7	1
US004723953	7	1 - 7	1
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US004145464	9	1 - 9	1
US003888248	7	1 - 7	1
Total (5)	37	-	-

[JS 2002001 3560A]

TITLE: Absorbent structure with integral vapor transmissive moisture barrier

[0056] For bonding the fibers specifically, and for structural integrity of the unitary absorbent core generally, water-based latex binders may be used. Alternatively, or in combination with a latex binder, thermoplastic binding material (fibers or powders) may be used for bonding upon heating to the melting point of the thermoplastic binding material. Suitable thermoplastic binding material includes thermoplastic fibers, such as bicomponent thermoplastic fibers ("bico"). Preferred thermoplastic binding fibers provide enhanced adhesion for a wide range of materials, including synthetic and natural fibers, particles, and synthetic and natural carrier sheets. An exemplary thermoplastic bico fiber is Celbond Type 235 Bico fiber from KoSa.

(54) **ABSORBENT STRUCTURE WITH INTEGRAL VAPOR TRANSMISSIVE MOISTURE BARRIER** of provisional application No. 60/252,544, filed on Nov. 22, 2000.

		Publication Classification	
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	David W. Wu, Bartlett, TN (US)		

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(73) Assignee: BKE HOLDING CORPORATION
(21) Appl. No.: 09/854,179
(22) Filed: May 11, 2001

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Non-provisional of provisional application No. 60/294,418 filed on May 12, 2000. Non-provisional of

fibrous absorbent layer having an upper fluid receiving surface and a lower surface with a hydrophobic vapor-transmissive moisture barrier integral with the lower surface of the absorbent layer. Also disclosed is a process for the production of the unitary absorbent core, including the steps of (a) producing a fibrous absorbent layer having upper and lower surfaces, and (b) applying to the lower surface of the fibrous absorbent layer a hydrophobic material which at least partially coats the lower surface of the fibers of the lower surface of the absorbent layer.

Topsheet

Absorbent Core

Foam Treatment

Moisture Barrier

Microporous Backsheet (Optional)

	Document ID	Title
78	US 4758466 A	Foam-fiber composite and pro
79	US 4722857 A	Reinforced non-woven fabric
80	US 4706338 A	Apparatus for forming fibre w
81	US 4548856 A	Method for forming soft, bulky

US-PAT-NO: 4706338

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4706338 A

Viewer e webs

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----- KWIC -----

Abstract Text - ABTX (1):

An apparatus for forming fibre webs including a first component and a second component in the form of two textile fibres differentiated by their average fibre length or a textile fibre and wood pulp, said apparatus including a card means having a discharge zone, means for feeding said second component to said discharge zone, and means for condensing the fibres in said discharge zone whereby a highly uniform fibre web is obtained.

Brief Summary Text - BSTX (6):

According to the present invention, this object is obtained by providing an apparatus for forming fibre webs including first and second components in the form of at least two textile fibres differentiated by their average fibre lengths or a textile fibre and wood pulp, characterized by comprising card means having a discharge zone, means for feeding said second component to said discharge zone and means for condensing the mixed fibres in said discharge zone, whereby a highly uniform fibre web is obtained.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (1):

Referring now more particularly to the drawing, one embodiment of an apparatus for forming heterogeneous fibre webs at elevated production velocities basically comprises a high velocity card means 2 and a pulp mill 4 coupled so as to deposit intimately mixed textile fibres and wood pulp on a conveyor belt 6 to form a fibre web 8.

United States Patent [19]

Anspach

[11] Patent Number: 4,706,338

[45] Date of Patent: Nov. 17, 1987

[54] APPARATUS FOR FORMING FIBRE WEBS

[56]

References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

1,084,592 7/1931 Williams 18/145.5 X
3,416,180 10/1971 Newman 18/322 X
4,473,371 10/1984 Lougren et al. 18/145.7 X
4,519,301 3/1985 Tooe 18/145.3 X

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

GB2162 7/1964 United Kingdom 18/104 R

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[75] Inventor: Jean M. H. Anspach, S6b Jost dos Campos, Brazil

[73] Assignee: Clitopea, New Brunswick, N.J.

[21] Appl. No.: 839,019

[22] Filed: Mar. 13, 1986

[30] Foreign Application Priority Data

Mar. 13, 1985 (BR) Brazil 8501093

[51] Int. Cl. D01G 15/40; D01G 15/46

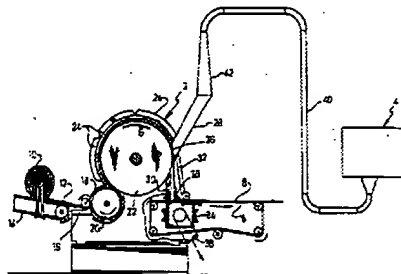
[52] U.S. Cl. 18/103; 19/106 R;
19/145.7; 19/322; 19/304

[53] Field of Search 19/145.5, 145.7, 302;
19/106 R, 103, 304

[57] ABSTRACT

An apparatus for forming fibre webs including a first component and a second component in the form of two textile fibres differentiated by their average fibre length or a textile fibre and wood pulp, said apparatus including a card means having a discharge zone, means for feeding said second component to said discharge zone, and means for condensing the fibres in said discharge zone whereby a highly uniform fibre web is obtained.

4 Claims, 1 Drawing Figure



US006270573B1

(20) Patent No.: US 6,270,873 B1
(45) Date of Patent: Aug. 7, 2001

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6270873 B1

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In FIG. 3, the bottom sheet 13 is a heavier weight heat fusible paper which is a blend of cellulosic and thermo plastic fibre and can have a weight of between 5-100 g per square meter. Typically, the paper has 22% thermo plastic fibre and 78% cellulose fibre and is resin bonded to have a good wet strength. The paper has a good wetting and wicking action to assist in drawing fluids to the superabsorbent polymer.

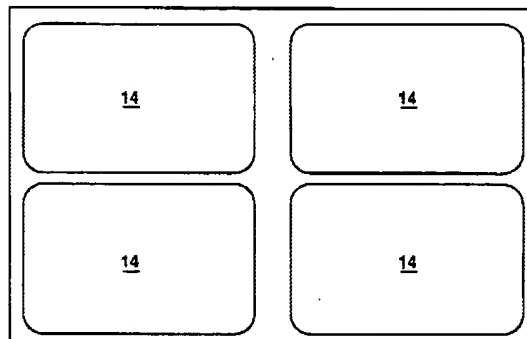
(56)	References Cited
	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS
3,156,400	* 11/1964 DePue 229/50
4,275,811	6/1961 Miller 236/204
5,274,885	* 1/1964 Takehana 236/44
5,789,476	* 8/1968 Ischura 426/15.9

4215153 1/1994 (AL).
1157395 8/1995 (AL).
O 353 354 A1 2/1997 (EP).
WO 9003320 4/1990 (WO).

Primary Examiner—Alexander S. Thomas
(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Rupert B. Hurley, Jr.

An absorbent pad has a top sheet and a bottom sheet, the sheets being joined to form at least one cell, an absorbent located within the cell, at least one sheet being formed of a liquid impermeable material containing microperforations. The top and/or bottom sheets may comprise multiple layers of different materials, e.g., plastics, non-woven fabrics, paper.

21 Chains, 19 Drawing Sheets



US-PAT-NO: 6270873

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6270873 B1

TITLE: Absorbent pad

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (10):

In FIG. 3, the bottom sheet 13 is a heavier weight heat fusible paper which is a blend of cellulosic and thermo plastic fibre and can have a weight of between 5-100 g per square meter. Typically, the paper has 22% thermo plastic fibre and 78% cellulose fibre and is resin bonded to have a good wet strength. The **paper has a good wetting and wicking** action to assist in drawing fluids to the superabsorbent polymer.

US-PAT-NO: 5552169

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5552169 A

TITLE: Food package adapted for microwave or other cooking

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Claims Text - CLTX (25):

19. An absorbent pad according to claim 14 wherein said lower layer is formed of wet strength tissue **paper for increased permeability and wicking** of liquid into said pad to increase the rate of absorption thereof.

US-PAT-NO: 4723953

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4723953 A

TITLE: Absorbent pad

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (5):

The wicking layer 12 may be of paper toweling and the like in which a liquid will migrate very rapidly to the marginal edges of the air bubble layer 10 and over the edges 14 to a lower absorbent layer.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (9):

As best seen in FIG. 4, the preferred embodiment of the present invention comprises an uppermost layer 28 of Pellon. The next layer 30 is cellulose tissue. The wicking layer 12 is of paper toweling which completely surrounds the air bubble layer 10 having a cushion function. The absorbent layer 15 is of cotton wadding and the bottom layer 16 is of plastic.

Detailed Description Text - DETX (10):

In use, the embodiment shown in FIG. 4 receives liquids via the cellulose tissue layer 30 which transfers the excess liquid to a Pellon layer 28. The excess liquid from layer 30 is delivered to the Pellon layer 28 and then to the upper paper towel wicking layer 12 which wicks some of the liquid around the edges 14 of the air bubble layer 10 while the bulk of the liquid is delivered by the upper wicking layer 12 to the air bubble layer 10. The air bubbles 22 projecting upwardly present a barrier pattern to the incoming liquid and breaks the liquid stream into a multitude of small streams or riverlets which migrate to the edges 14 and discharge into the lower wicking layer 12a for even discharge across the surface of the absorbent layer 15. The bottom layer 16 prevents liquids from escaping the absorbent layer.

	Document ID	Title
123	US 4333465 A	Hygienic sanitary towel
124	US 4301139 A	Multilayer column chromatogr
125	US 4293609 A	Flexible absorbent laminates
126	US 4279519 A	Dot matrix printing device em

US-PAT-NO: 4293609

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4293609 A

Times New Roman 12

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (27):

The moisture content of the laminates must be reduced from their normal content of about 14% moisture to less than 8% and preferably in the range from 1-6%. If the moisture content is greater than about 8%, there is substantially no crushing or shattering of the film in the subsequent cracking zone since the film remains flexible. If the moisture content is less than 1% moisture, there is substantial tearing or rupturing of the wicking substrates such as the fibers of the paper, tissue mats.

FLEXIBLE ABSORBENT LAMINATES

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 55,566, filed July 9, 1979 now abandoned.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to flexible absorbent laminates wherein a highly crosslinked or water-swellaible hydrophilic polymer film is bonded to wicking substrates, dried, and crushed to give laminates flexibility and high water absorption rates.

It is known from U.S. Pat. No. 3,669,122 dated June 13, 1972 that tissue/polyethylene film/tissue laminates can be crimped or embossed to give an improved hand or flexibility or tissue-like feel.

It is also known from French Pat. No. 2,375,915 dated Sept. 1, 1978 that non-woven fiber sheet/tissue/absorbent layer/tissue/polyethylene film laminates can be made flexible with adhesion to the film by adding an adhesive between the tissue and the polyethylene film followed by transverse crimping or crimping.

In U.S. Pat. Nos. 4,117,184 and 4,176,667, it is disclosed that tissue/serated absorbent film/tissue laminates can be prepared.

While the laminates disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,117,184 have good absorption rates for water, urine, and other body fluids or exudates they have a tendency to become brittle and inelastic in atmospheres of low relative humidity. The result is an unacceptable rattle sound when the laminate is flexed and the laminate has a stiff or board-like feel.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It now has been found that laminates comprising a central crushed film of a highly crosslinked or water-swellaible hydrophilic polymer combined with wicking substrates can be prepared which are both highly absorbent and flexible at both high and low relative humidities.

The present invention is thus a flexible hydrophilic absorbent laminate which has a rapid absorption rate and is flexible at low and high relative humidities which comprises

(a) a central, substantially discontinuous and crushed film consisting of a water-swellaible hydrophilic polymer, and

(b) a layer of wicking substrates bonded to both sides of said film.

While the absorbent film can be a solid film as in U.S. Pat. No. 4,076,673, dated Feb. 23, 1978, it is preferably an serated film as disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,117,184.

A further aspect of the present invention is a method of making the above laminates which comprises the steps of: reducing the moisture content of a laminate of a highly crosslinked hydrophilic polymer film with wicking substrates to less than 1% by weight by passing said laminate through a drying zone, and putting said dried laminate through a crushing or cracking zone wherein said film is crushed into a plurality of pieces which remain substantially laminated to said substrates.

The laminates are useful to make absorbent articles such as baby diapers, adult diapers for incontinent patients, and the like since the laminates and/or articles readily absorb aqueous solutions such as blood, urine, and other body exudates. The absorbent articles contain

4,293,609

one or more layers of wicking substrates such as non-woven fiber mats, tissue wadding, or cellulose fluff together with a water impermeable bottom sheet such as polyethylene and a water permeable top sheet such as a non-woven fiber mat.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The drawing is a photographic reproduction of one species of the present invention.

FIG. 1 shows a view taken with a scanning electron microscope of the laminate with the top layer of paper tissue fibers partially pulled back to expose the crushed film underneath. The bottom layer of paper tissue fibers is clearly evident beneath the crushed film.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged view of the center portion of FIG. 1 showing in greater detail the cracks and bubbles in the serated film and the bonding of the film to the fibers.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The water-swellaible or lightly crosslinked hydrophilic polymers useful in this invention can be any of the known hydrophilic polymers that are capable of being formed into a film. Examples of such polymers are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 3,997,484; 3,926,491; 3,915,099; 4,090,013; and 4,190,352.

The preferred hydrophilic polymers useful in this invention are polyelectrolytes and must be essentially water soluble in the salt form. Examples of useful polyelectrolytes include ammonium or alkali metal salts of homopolymers of acrylic or methacrylic acid and copolymers with one or more ethylenically unsaturated comonomers.

Preferably the polyelectrolyte is a partially saponified polyacrylate polymer. The polymer before saponification is the result of reacting together a mixture of monomers which comprises (1) 30 to 92 percent by weight of an alkyl acrylate wherein the alkyl group has from 1 to 10 carbon atoms, an alkyl methacrylate wherein the alkyl group has from 4 to 10 carbon atoms, or mixtures thereof; (2) 8 to 70 percent by weight of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid; and (3) 0 to 15 percent by weight of an omega hydroxyalkyl acrylate wherein the hydroxyalkyl groups has from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

Examples of useful alkyl acrylates include methyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, propyl acrylate, butyl acrylate, and hexyl acrylate. Examples of useful alkyl methacrylates include methyl methacrylate, ethyl methacrylate, hexyl methacrylate, octyl methacrylate and decyl methacrylate. Examples of useful omega hydroxyalkyl acrylates include 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, hydroxyethyl acrylate, 3-hydroxypropyl acrylate and 4-hydroxybutyl acrylate.

The olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acids useful in this invention are mono or polycarboxylic acids. Examples of monocarboxylic acids include acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, crotonic acid, and isocrotonic acid. Examples of polycarboxylic acids include maleic acid, fumaric acid, and itaconic acid.

The foregoing polyacrylates are then dissolved in an aqueous alkali metal hydroxide solution. The amount of hydroxide solution employed is sufficient to saponify some of the acrylate moieties to alkali metal carboxylates and to neutralize the carboxylic groups of the polyacrylate to alkali metal carboxylates so that the saponified polyacrylate polymer has from 20 to 70 weight percent alkali metal carboxylates.

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Document ID	Title
132 US 4187076 A	Paraquat detection method
133 US 4176667 A	Disposable liquid absorbent p
134 US 4145464 A	Absorbent articles
135 US 4117184 A	Absorbent films and laminates

US-PAT-NO: 4145464

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4145464 A



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Brief Summary Text - BSTX (7):

It is well known to employ a wicking layer in a disposable diaper for the purpose of enhancing the lateral mobility of body liquids to achieve effective utilization of the absorbent components of said diaper. One such wicking layer is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 3,763,863, assigned to Johnson and Johnson. The wicking layer disclosed in that patent is a densified, paper-like layer formed insitu on an absorbent batt of loosely compacted fibers by spraying a surface of the batt with moisture, and compressing the batt to densify the moistened surface. This manner of forming the wicking layer is disclosed in detail in U.S. Pat. No. 3,017,304, which is also assigned to Johnson and Johnson.

United States Patent [19]

[11] 4,145,464

McConnell et al.

[43] Mar. 20, 1979

[54] ABSORBENT ARTICLES

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[75] Inventors: Albert L. McConnell, Wallingford;
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Assistant Examiner—V. Mills
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Martin L. Falgout; William J. Foley

[73] Assignee: Scott Paper Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

[57] ABSTRACT

[21] Appl. No.: 732,776

[22] Filed: Oct. 15, 1976

[31] Int. Cl.: B32B 6/14; B32B 5/16

[32] U.S. Cl.: 428/173; 128/284;

428/283

[34] Field of Search: 128/287; 428/280-284;

428/286-291, 296-305, 321, 340, 171, 215, 167,

244, 323, 351, 332, 910, 292, 19/144.5, 145,

145.3; 15/239 R; 427/334, 353, 202; 5/3, 90, 92,

354, 354 R, 354

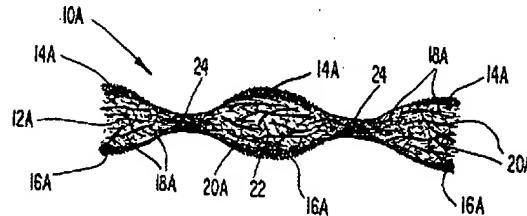
[36] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

2,763,847 10/1986 Graham 19/149
3,105,891 10/1983 Harwood 128/280 R
3,597,306 8/1971 Meek et al. 428/283
3,612,055 10/1971 Meek et al. 128/287
3,858,016 12/1974 Yamauchi 128/290 R
3,881,490 2/1975 Weichand et al. 128/217
3,903,489 9/1975 Torr 128/287
3,908,439 9/1975 Wehrmeyer et al. 128/287
3,918,497 11/1975 Thompson 128/287
3,934,518 1/1976 Meek et al. 128/287
3,938,322 2/1976 Rapp 128/287
3,973,087 8/1976 Newman 428/283
3,974,519 8/1976 Albeckoff 428/283

A nonwoven absorbent structure usable by itself, as a wiper for example, or usable in combination with other elements, such as an internal absorbent member of a disposable diaper. The absorbent structure includes a dry-formed fibrous section in which the average fiber length is about 1.2 millimeters or longer, and a liquid-transmitting layer of particulate material associated with at least one surface of the fibrous section and having a density greater than that of the fibrous section. At least 50% of the particles, by weight, are of a size that will pass through a 48 mesh screen, and the particulate material is chemically bonded together to form the liquid-transmitting layer(s). Particles of the layer(s) are located between fibers at and adjacent the associated surface(s) of the fibrous section to form a zone in which particles and fibers are intermixed. A disposable diaper in accordance with this invention has an internal absorbent member including a dry-formed fibrous section with the above-described layer of particulate material associated with only one surface thereof. The absorbent member is positioned between a liquid-permeable facing sheet and a backing sheet, and the layer of particulate material is associated with the surface of the fibrous section closest the backing sheet.

6 Claims, 6 Drawing Figures



PATENTED JUN 10 1975

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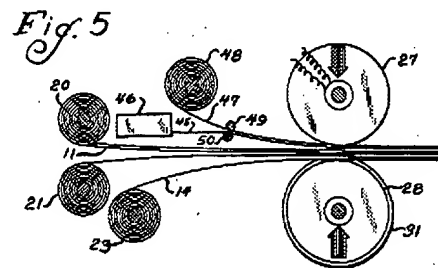
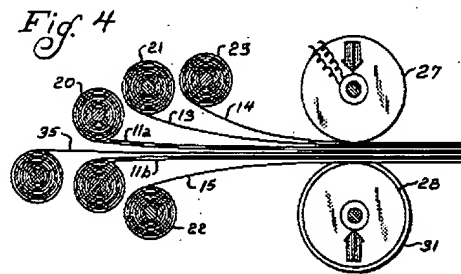
3.888,248

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 3888248 A

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Referring now to FIG. 4, if it is desired, the absorbent core material may be made of two layers of needle-punched rayon 11a, 11b or similar material as disclosed above with a central thin layer of tissue paper 35 for "wicking" fluid laterally between the two layers of absorbent core material to spread it out for greater absorption capacity of the pad before saturating it.



US-PAT-NO: 3576039

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 3576039 A

TITLE: ABSORBENT UNDERPAD WITH SECURING MEANS

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (1):

Referring to the drawings, the underpad is shown as comprising an impervious backing sheet 1, of polyethylene or equivalent plastic material, absorbent means 2 which may conveniently be quantities of hydrous calcium silicate powder enclosed in permeable **paper envelopes, a distribution layer 4, preferably of material having a "wicking"** effect to pass liquids quickly from the upper surface to the absorbent means, and a permeable upper facing 5 which may suitably be a porous nonwoven fabric. The backing sheet 1 is shown at 6 in FIG. 2, as extending around two opposite edges of the underpad, being sealed to the upper facing to form a laterally closed package. The absorbent material envelopes may be adhesively secured at suitable points to the backing sheet 1 and distribution layer 4 in order to retain all elements in their desired respective positions.

US-PAT-NO: 6270873

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6270873 B1

TITLE: Absorbent pad

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (10):

In FIG. 3, the bottom sheet 13 is a heavier weight heat fusible paper which is a blend of cellulosic and thermo plastic fibre and can have a weight of between 5-100 g per square meter. Typically, the paper has 22% thermo plastic fibre and 78% cellulose fibre and is resin bonded to have a good wet strength. The **paper has a good wetting and wicking** action to assist in drawing fluids to the superabsorbent polymer.